



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Bryna Warshawsky, Acting Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2012 October 18

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## CURRENT STATUS OF 2013 BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

### **Recommendation**

*It is recommended that Report No. 129-12 re “Current Status of 2013 Budget Considerations” be received for information.*

This report summarizes the current status of the Board of Health’s 2013 budget considerations and provides background for the budget-related issues that will be presented at this Board of Health meeting. In addition, clarification regarding the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care’s position with regard to cost-sharing arrangements is provided.

### **Background**

At its **May 17, 2012** meeting, the Board of Health began deliberations about the Health Unit’s 2013 budget. The Board was asked to consider:

- a) holding municipal contributions at 2004 levels and using provincial grants to cover increasing costs (referred to as the “2005 Board of Health Business Plan”); or
- b) moving quickly towards a 75 / 25 cost-share arrangement.

(Report No. [069-12](#))

At the May meeting, the Board deferred Report No. 069-12 and requested a detailed outline of the implications for Health Unit programs and services of moving towards a 75/25 cost-shared arrangement, which was provided at the **June 21 2012** Board of Health meeting (Report No. [084-12](#) as well as an in-camera report which provided additional details). At the June meeting, the Board deferred Report No. 084-12 and requested that staff discuss and report back on efficiencies that might be achieved through shared service agreements with the City of London.

At the **September 13, 2012** Board of Health meeting, the following items were discussed:

- It was noted that exploration of shared services would require a review that would not be available to assist with the 2013 budget deliberations (Report No. [102-12](#)).
- The Board discussed explorations by the City of London and Middlesex County regarding municipal administration of public health (Report No. [116-12](#)) and requested that the Mayor of the City of London and Warden for Middlesex County make a presentation to the Board of Health.
- It was noted that the province is only expected to provide up to a 2% increase for 2013. Along with a 0% municipal increase in keeping with the 2005 Business plan, this would result in a \$477,682 budget shortfall for 2013 (Report No. [101-12](#)). Considerations to address this budget shortfall will be discussed at this meeting and are reviewed in Report No. [117-12](#) re “2013 Budget – ‘Protecting the Gains’”

### **Cost-sharing Arrangements Clarified by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care**

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) circulated a presentation made by Ms. Sylvia Shedden, Director, Public Health Standards, Practice and Accountability Branch at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, to the Board of Health Section of alPHa at the June 12, 2012 meeting. On slides 9

and 10 of this presentation (attached as [Appendix A](#)), the Ministry outlines its position with regard to cost-shared arrangements. The following excerpt can be found on slide 10:

- “If the board of health’s total eligible costs exceed the Ministry’s approved funding, then the obligated municipalities are responsible for the costs (as per section 72 of the HPPA – *Health Protection and Promotion Act*).
- The Ministry acknowledges that there are many obligated municipalities within the Province that provide funding to boards of health that exceeds 25% of the mandatory programs budget. We appreciate that this is a result of the commitment of boards of health to provide the most appropriate public health programs and services to their communities.”

The same information was also provided to the Regional and Single Tier Chief Administrative Officers Committee by way of an Issues Briefing Note which is attached as [Appendix B](#). This briefing note also provides information on the Public Health Funding Review process that is currently underway to assess needs and equity in public health funding.

### **Shared Services Review**

The City of London is currently reviewing the draft Terms of Reference for the shared-services review requested by the Board of Health at its June 2012 meeting. Once received, these draft Terms of Reference will be presented to the Board of Health for its review.

### **Exploration of Municipal Administration of Public Health**

At the September 13, 2012 Board of Health meeting, the Board requested that Mayor, Joe Fontana and Warden, Jim Maudsley make a presentation regarding their exploration of municipal administration of public health. This presentation is scheduled for this Board of Health meeting. Background information can be found in Report No. [116-12](#) from the September 2012 meeting. Report No. 116-12 outlines preliminary considerations with regard to understanding the potential implications of municipal administration of public health.



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<p><b>This report addresses</b> the following requirement(s) of the Ontario Organizational Standards: Section 2.2 Informing municipalities of financial obligations</p>
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